

weather. Yet by uncovering the protecting layer of turf or removing the peaty earth that lies in the hollows, he may almost anywhere detect striation still perfectly legible. The direction of the markings indicates that the ice came down from the great range of heights that lie to the south-east, and the scattered blocks are found to have travelled from the same quarter. Besides boulders of the ancient gneiss from the nearer low grounds, there lie blocks of quartzite from the great escarpments north and south of Loch Stack,



FIG. 57.—Perched Blocks on ice-worn hummocks of gneiss between Loch Laxford and Richonich, Sutherland.

and pieces of the younger gneisses that have been carried from the mountains of the interior.

There is probably not a glen in the Highlands that descends from a considerable mass of high ground where such erratic blocks may not be seen, and by studying which, in connection with the geology of the district, we may not be able to trace the path of the ice-sheet or of the later glaciers. Sometimes a single huge mass, measuring 500